

3. LME Break-out Session II: Regional Summaries.

Questions posed to regional groups:

1. What are the needs and challenges for regional coordination?
2. How can coordination be operationalised in your region?

Africa and WIO

Needs and Challenges

- Different stages
- No effective mechanisms
- Different levels (conventions and NEPAD)
- Large number of activities, programs, projects
- Need leadership
- User-friendly information must be available/compatible
- Still evolving

Americas and Caribbean

Needs and Challenges

- Reduction of transaction costs and use what exists already (i.e. IW website)
- Changes that projects are producing must be accounted for
- Duplication of effort occurring, need greater awareness of GEF projects (and other relevant projects) in region

Implementation

- Integrated approach to planning– we don't need to reinvent the wheel
- Regional e-mail network, identifying who are the focal points (expand participation beyond individual GEF projects)
- Incorporate civil society into planning processes
- Hold regional coordination meetings – learn from the African experience in information exchange.

Europe

Needs and Challenges

- Socio-Economic/Governance indicators need work globally and in Europe
- Increase political commitment
- Scattered M&E data
- Donor agency pipelines etc. can prevent collaboration/cooperation

Implementation

- Need a common M&E language (e.g. EEA)
- M&E to:
 - Provide direction
 - Provide communication, tools
 - To provide coordination tools (HELCOM)
- Network to develop tools that influence decision makers
- Cross-sectoral communication (e.g. Danube, Black Sea and GEF IW and Biodiv) and across project stages.

Asia-Pacific

Needs and Challenges

- No clarity on why they need to work together
- Political sensitivities/willingness

- Coordination and cooperation are needed (not clear on GEF project in the region, project managers have trouble communicating with each other)
 - Different levels of challenges:
 - Implementing agencies
 - Project level
 - National coordination
 - Donor coordination
 - TDA/SAP process – identified many problems, but fewer solutions
- Implementation
- Implementing agencies: coordination mechanisms in the region / task force?
 - Project level: hold regular meetings to discuss implementation
 - National level: Inter-Ministerial committees should work better, enhance national coordination as a GEF requirement, provide more info about regional projects (even just the meaning of acronyms!)
 - Donor level: inventories of donor project in the region, which will help understand past/current situation and implementation

Economic valuation

2 participants have identified this topic as a learning priority

Faumuina V.S.Pati Liu [South Pacific] We are really interested to get some information on economic valuation of environmental resources relevant to our Small Island situation (eg. methodologies, economic valuation systems etc). It is part of our capacity building program and we would greatly value any assistance from the experts.

From: Herman Cesar [mailto:herman.cesar@ivm.vu.nl]
Sent: Wednesday, April 13, 2005 3:25 PM
To: MARTIN Kirsten
Cc: LUNDIN Carl Gustaf
Subject: RE: Environmental Valuation of Transboundary Marine Waters

Hi Kirsten, we have done a paper on economics of networks of marine protected areas. There must be stuff on transboundary migratory species like tuna. I once had a student who did something on transboundary resources of the Indian/Bangladeshi Sunderban mangroves. But the overall conclusion was that the actual additional benefits of a transboundary approach there were not too big as they could get most gains from doing more rational resource management in each of the countries. In such a case, the costs of additional management needed may outway the additional benefits of a transboundary approach. There may be some work done on the meso-American reef system but I don't know whether they have actually done a valuation of the transboundary aspect. Of course, there are many studies on the economic value of all the coral reefs in the Caribbean but that does not look specifically at the transboundary nature. Hope this helps. Let me know if you need more. Herman

From: Paula Holland [mailto:paulah@sprep.org]
Sent: Friday, April 08, 2005 9:31 PM
To: MARTIN Kirsten; marine@iwlearn.net; Pati.Liu@mnre.gov.ws

Cc: IW/6/11 - IW LEARN; Andrew Wright; Natasha Stacey; Steve Menzies

Subject: RE: Environmental Valuation of environmental resources - transboundary cases?

Dear Kirsten, Pati and colleagues

While on the issue of economic valuations, I might add that the International Waters Project (IWP) at SPREP is conducting a series of economic valuations of resources in which you might be interested.

We are currently finalising a report on the economic value of watersheds on Rarotonga, Cook Islands. This study - which was conducted principally to support lobbying for watershed protection and public awareness - has estimated the economic losses to households, government and industry of not protecting the island's watersheds. The report should be finalised in the next few days and press releases will follow in the regional and national press.

We are also currently conducting an economic valuation of waste for Tonga. Waste is currently contributing to the pollution of the freshwater lens that supplies water across Tongatapu (for instance) and may also be threatening fisheries, tourism etc. In this study, we will be estimating the losses to the economy of persistent waste problems. We will also be using the study to ascertain the willingness of consumers to pay for improved waste services and thereby feed into policy formulation. This study will be available around August.

Finally, we are currently in consultation with the IWP in both Samoa and Fiji about the potential to conduct economic valuations there in watersheds and waste respectively. The purpose of these studies - if support is found to be widespread - will vary from awareness raising and lobbying purposes to detailed policy formulation.

Should you require further information on these activities, I would be happy to expand. So please feel free to contact me at leisure.

Kind regards to all.

Paula Holland
Natural Resource Economist
International Waters Project
SPREP
Samoa.

From: MARTIN Kirsten

Sent: Friday, April 08, 2005 5:45 PM

To: 'GEF Large Marine Ecosystems Structured Learning Community'

Subject: RE: Environmental Valuation of environmental resources - transboundary cases?

Dear Faumuina Pati, Anders and all,

Below you can find the links to some web-based information on "economic valuation of environmental resources". It might be worth specifying it via the purpose you would like to undertake the valuation for. E.g., is it to convince governments, other stakeholders or potential donors of the value LMEs as transboundary ecosystems have for conservation? Is there an aspect which would need valuation particularly?

** Here is some general information on valuation methodologies/tools and case studies from various regions and ecosystem types (IUCN, World Bank and others):

- **Assessing the Economic Value of Ecosystem Conservation:** This paper seeks to clarify how valuation should be conducted to answer specific policy questions. <http://www.biodiversityeconomics.org/pdf/topics-628-00.pdf>
- **How much is an ecosystem worth? Assessing the economic value of conservation:** clarifications on the aims and uses of economic valuation, focusing on the types of questions that valuation can answer, and the type of valuation that is best suited to each purpose. This report aims to provide guidance on how economic valuation can be used to address specific, policy-relevant questions about nature conservation. <http://www.biodiversityeconomics.org/valuation/topics-627-00.htm>
- **Valuing ecosystem benefits : Readings and Case studies on the Economic Value of Conservation:** a CD ROM containing main papers and the above, reference material such as methods, ecosystem types, countries/regions etc., and further readings. I have attached reference lists for countries and ecosystems.

** A suitable example from within IUCN might be the valuation work on freshwater ecosystem cases, coordinated by the Water & Nature Initiative. Most of the chosen cases are site valuations, but the Indus Delta (slightly) and Zambesi case studies may be seen as transboundary...:

- **VALUE - Counting ecosystems as a part of water infrastructure:** A practical guide that explains the most important steps and techniques for the valuation of ecosystem services, and the incorporation of its results in decision-making. It explains, step by step, how to generate persuasive arguments for more sustainable and equitable development decisions in water resources management. <http://www.waterandnature.org/value/index.html>
- **Flow - The Essentials of Environmental Flows** An environmental flow is the water regime provided within a river, wetland or coastal zone to maintain ecosystems and their benefits where there are competing water uses and where flows are regulated. An associated web-forum offers the options to: submit case studies and lessons learnt; discuss online or via email specific technical issues; interact with experts on new publications, events or projects through our mailing list. <http://www.waterandnature.org/flow/main.html> . **Flow – Online learning course:** <http://iucn.ffof.org/cms/login/index.php>

** Lastly, I personally do not know of marine transboundary economic studies from within IUCN, but will ask colleagues who might do. There have been a number of valuations on coral reefs, and some will likely have transboundary character. A coral reef **example** would be "**the economics of worldwide coral reef degradation**" by Herman Cesar and others for WWF (cases from Indonesia and Egypt). I can send it to you if you find relevant.

I agree with Janot and invite contributions from past experiences within the LME project portfolio since I imagine they will be the most relevant examples in this context.

Thank you.
Kirsten

From: GEF Large Marine Ecosystems Structured Learning Community
[mailto:marine@iwlearn.net] **On Behalf Of** Pati Liu
Sent: Wednesday, April 06, 2005 10:41 PM
To: GEF Large Marine Ecosystems Structured Learning Community
Subject: Re: Project Mgmt, Environmental Valuation & Public Participation

Greetings from Samoa & I'm really excited about the wealth of information & experiences that Samoa could get this LME network. Thanks for including Samoa Division of Environment & Conservation on the network and we are really interested to get some information on economic valuation of environmental resources relevant to our Small Island situation (eg. methodologies, economic valuation systems etc). It is part of our capacity building program and we would greatly value any assistance from the experts.

I wish IUCN all success in this network & looking forward to some positive feedback.

Kindest regards,
Faumuina V.S.Pati LIU
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-----Original Message-----

From: GEF Large Marine Ecosystems Structured Learning Community
[mailto:marine@iwlearn.net] **On Behalf Of** Janot-Reine MENDLER
Sent: Wednesday, 6 April 2005 9:18 a.m.
To: GEF Large Marine Ecosystems Structured Learning Community
Subject: Project Mgmt, Environmental Valuation & Public Participation

Dear Anders,

Thanks for your nice intro in the marine e-forum (and for contacting us at IW:LEARN).

First, Kirsten Marten's introduction from the IUCN team is the short answer to your question(s!). We're partnering with IUCN's Global Marine Program to gather the GEF LME, marine and coastal projects - beginning with this e-forum - to assess training needs and priorities across the global GEF portfolio and also within regions, to find out how we can best tailor IW:LEARN's 'structured learning' activities to your needs.

Structured learning includes sharing practical experience among colleagues and technical experts, as well as targeted training to address collective priorities among this group of GEF projects. IWLEARN brings projects together by region as well as by theme (e.g. LME projects, aquifer, lake or river basin projects) to share lessons learnt, and also to work with expert or regional partners to develop and offer targeted capacity building to GEF projects and their partners on-the-ground.

My first suggestion for project management training would be to consider the TDA/SAP training course under development at U.Plymouth by Laurence Mee with Train-Sea-Coast. You will be able to get an intro and overview of this training program at the GEF IW conference in Salvador in June! We are also working with URI (U. Rhode Island) to develop a training package geared specifically to LMEs going into more depth on socio-economic and governance issues previously identified as priority needs.

With respect to environmental valuation, those participants with experience in this are encouraged to respond so that Anders and Hamid can contact you as they

plan training for the Caspian! I know that the South China Sea project has expertise and very likely some practical lessons to share on this subject. IUCN has also developed useful tools and training on economic valuation and ecosystem services which I am sure they would be happy to discuss with you or in the e-forum if others share this interest.

Another example those in the Eastern Europe and Caucasus region are hopefully aware of is the upcoming regional Information Management and Public Participation workshop IW:LEARN is organizing with UNECE and the Peipsi CTC. Looking ahead, we are partnering with the Environmental Law Institute (ELI) to develop public awareness and participation workshops on a regional basis. At the GEF conference in Salvador, you will be able to get a sample of tools and resources ELI has to offer and provide feedback on how this can best serve your region.

Kind regards,
Janot

PS: Dann got your message and will respond by end of this wk, and with more specific info on IW:LEARN activities in the Caspian region.

At 12:01 PM +0430 4/6/05, Anders Poulsen wrote:
Dear Janot,

I got your e-mail from Hamid Gaffarzadeh, our Project Manager at the Caspian Environment Programme (CEP).

For your information, I am working as Biodiversity Expert with CEP (which is a regional GEF-funded project covering the five countries around the Caspian Sea: Azerbadjan, Iran, Kazakhstan, Russia and Turkmenistan). In this regard, I see some great potential for our project to both benefit from, and contribute to, the IW:LEARN process. I have at this stage two issues that I would like to share with you:

(1) We are currently in the process of identifying training needs on a regional basis and have identified the following topics as priority for training:

- Project Management in a Transboundary context (including negotiation, facilitation, conflict resolution, regional monitoring & evaluation)
- Environmental Valuation in a transboundary context
- Public Participation

Does IW:LEARN provide or facilitate any training/learning in those (or other relevant) subject areas, or could IW:LEARN assist in developing some relevant "events", for our project staff as well as affiliated government officials?

(2) Another activity that we are currently working on is the establishment of a Caspian EcoNet - a Network of ecology/environment/biodiversity stakeholders of the region to share information, practices and learning. This could almost be viewed as a regional version of IW:LEARN! Eventually, this Network would be anticipated to provide important inputs to the IW:LEARN process. We are planning to "kick-start" the EcoNet through a regional training event, which we will be developing over the next month or two. This will be discussed at a regional meeting in Kazakhstan by the end of this month. As far as I can see, there are good opportunities here for cooperation between CEP and IW:LEARN?

I thank you in advance for your assistance with this and hope that we will be able to cooperate on IW issues in the future (although I will not be joining the meeting in Rio in June).

Best regards,

Anders Poulsen
Biodiversity Expert

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